

Göttingen, 19 febr. 58.

My dear Miss Gray,

Having received to-day your letter of febr. 1., I return immediately a note of the Bremen agents, by which most unhappily the loss of the chest seems to be confirmed.

They offer to make the ship-owners answerable at Bremen, but I must leave it to you, whether this would be the right plan: I think, that the measures, which you have taken at New-York, are to the purpose.

My conjectures are at an end: I thought first, the box might be transmitted at Bremen to somebody else, but the measures, to find it out there, were of no effect. I shall still try an advertisement in the Bremen-papers. I believe, that

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The sheet must either have been shipped at New-York on a wrong steamer of the Vanderbilt-line, or that it had been spoiled on sea and in consequence taken out of the way clandestinely by those who were amissable.

It is a loss most melancholy to myself. I go to London next month and shall then see Sir W. Hooker's etc. But if the specimens do not remain in my possession, I do not see how I could name them in a short time and without inconvenience. Is there then no other lot? nor of Fowler's plants?

But we will not yet give the box really lost, we will hope.

Ever yours, my dear Mr. Jey,  
faithfully and affectionately  
A. J. S. C. H. A. R. K.